

• COLORADO RIVER • AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT



OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Walsh Construction Company workers are shown as they "hole through" at the west portal of the San Juan tunnel. The tunnel, which is 6795 feet in length and 10 feet in diameter, was started last August and is scheduled for completion in May, 1956. The octopus-like line in the center of the picture is an air hose leading from a compressor to a jackhammer.

Board of Directors and Staff Members Tour Aqueduct System and Inspect Expansion Work

On April 1, 2 and 3, 18 members of the District Board of Directors and a number of staff members of the Metropolitan Water District made an inspection tour of the Aqueduct system, including several stops at points where construction work is under way. The party was under the direction of Robert B. Diemer, General Manager and Chief Engineer.

After visiting several points at which new pipeline construction work is under way, the party had lunch at Lake Mathews Reservoir on April 1. Representatives of

several contracting firms engaged in Aqueduct construction work were guests at the luncheon.

The party spent Friday and Saturday nights at Gene Village and made the return trip on Sunday. The entire trip was made in a comfortable Greyhound bus.

Board members making the trip were A. H. Allen, Luther C. Anderson, Robert W. Austin, Howard Boylan, Paul L. Burkhard, Warren W. Butler, Ransom

(Continued on Page Two)

All District Cities Oppose Upper Basin Bills

The city councils of every one of the 66 incorporated cities located within the Metropolitan Water District have adopted strong resolutions opposing the Upper Colorado River Basin Project bills and the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project bills now pending in Congress.

This unanimous action by the District cities has been supported by similar resolutions adopted by nine other cities, the boards of supervisors of all six counties served with Colorado River water, 28 chambers of commerce and scores of labor, management, tax and civic associations throughout the state.

Each of the resolutions expresses solid opposition to the congressional proposals which threaten California's share of vitally needed Colorado River water and which would saddle the taxpayers in every state of the Union with an additional tax burden of more than \$4 billion.

Typical of these resolutions was one which stated:

"California's rightful share of Colorado River water is threatened by the Upper Colorado River Basin projects.

"The aforementioned projects would inflict on all taxpayers of the nation an unjustifiable burden of more than four billion dollars in added taxes.

"The Colorado River Board of California, official state agency charged with the responsibility of safeguarding California's existing contracts for Colorado River water, has gone on record strongly opposing these measures.

"Resolved that the enactment of these project bills is against the interest of the State of California in general and should be opposed."

Of the 66 District cities which have passed resolutions similar to the one quoted above, 33 are located in Los Angeles County, 15 in Orange County, eight in San Diego County, six in Riverside County and four in San Bernardino County.

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Welcome, Hydraulic Press

The Metropolitan Water District extends congratulations and a cordial welcome to "The Hydraulic Press", new monthly publication of the Eastern Municipal Water District.

The new four-page monthly bulletin includes pictures, maps and information about the District. It will have a general circulation throughout the Eastern Municipal Water District area.

Mr Irwin E. Farrar, President of the District and a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District stated in the first issue that: "The Hydraulic Press will be used to bring policy decisions of the Board of Directors and news items reflecting the economic growth in the District's large area to the notice of residents of the District."

San Juan "Holed Thru"

The San Juan tunnel, one of the units of the lower feeder now being added to the Aqueduct distribution system, was "holed through" on April 6.

Excavation on the 6795-foot tunnel was commenced last August 4 by the Walsh Construction Company. It is 10 feet in diameter and is supported with steel ribs and timber lagging.

From one to three shifts were used at different times on the excavation work, employing the most modern tunnel boring equipment available.

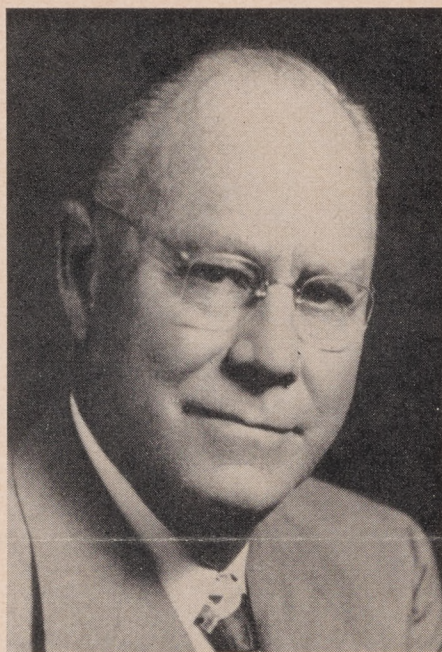
The one and one-half million dollar contract is scheduled for completion by May 31, 1956. Work is now proceeding on concreting the tunnel.

Directors Tour Aqueduct

(Continued from Page One)

W. Chase, Nelson Hayward, E. P. Hapgood, Morris S. Jones, Lloyd C. Leedom, Walter H. Long, George W. Stevens, Hugh W. Stiles, Victor H. York, Milo Dellmann and Frank H. Wheelock. A portion of the trip was made by Director Irwin E. Farrar.

Staff members and employees accom-



Director J. William Fisher

J. William Fisher Is New District Director

J. William Fisher was sworn in as the third member of the Board of Directors representing the San Diego County Water Authority at the April meeting of the Board. Mr. Fisher joins Fred A. Heilbron and Richard S. Holmgren as Authority representatives on the Board.

Mr. Fisher was born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts and graduated from Cornell University in 1905 as a mechanical engineer. He came to San Diego County in 1911 and has remained there ever since.

After World War I, Mr. Fisher joined the Southwest Onyx and Marble Company. In 1935 he became president and general manager of the company as well as of the Pedrara Onyx Company, which produces raw materials in Baja, California.

He is a member of a large number of civic organizations in San Diego and has been a member of the Citizens Water Advisory Committee for the City Manager of San Diego for 10 years and a member of the Board of Directors of the San Diego County Water Authority for the past five years.

He is married and has a family of three married daughters and 11 grandchildren.

panying the party included Mr. Diemer, R. A. Skinner, A. W. McKinlay, A. L. Gram, H. J. Mills, D. J. Kinsey, E. W. Rockwell, H. V. Crawshaw, M. M. Anderson, J. E. Anderson, W. S. Merrithew, C. C. Elder, R. S. Fee, L. G. Chazaro and Ray Powell.

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed April 1955, covering District operations for March 1955.)

Colorado River—The water level in Lake Mead dropped 3.36 feet during the month to a new low elevation of 1092.78 feet and a new minimum usable storage of 11,558,000 acre-feet, a decrease of 311,000 acre-feet for the month. At Hoover Dam the average rate of discharge was 14,600 cubic feet per second as compared with 12,600 for February. Lake Havasu surface elevation varied from 447.4 to 448.4 feet, and the average rate of discharge was 12,300 cfs.

Power and Pumping System—Pumping at Hayfield was on a 3-pump basis throughout March except for a 4-minute period on the 26th, when one pump was shut down. Water pumped at Hayfield during the month amounted to 35,983 acre-feet. Peak delivery to Edison Company was 104,500 kw.

Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant—Colorado River water was softened from 332 to 126 parts per million at an average rate of 145 cfs. Daily rate of flow varied from 134 to 203 cfs, with a total of 8770 acre-feet treated during the month.

Construction—On the middle cross-feeder and Inglewood lateral, 2794 lineal feet of 79-inch welded steel pipe was laid, for a total to date of 6730 feet. On the Cajalco to Corona pipe line, pipe laying operations were completed; 2302 lineal feet of pipe was laid on the line through Corona; 1000 lineal feet was laid on the Corona to Santa Ana River Canyon pipe line; 1660 feet of pipe was laid on the Santa Ana River Canyon to San Juan tunnel line. At San Juan tunnel the contractor advanced 855 feet for a total to date of 6509 feet. All work was completed on the West Orange County feeder on March 10.

On pumping plant expansion, 53 percent of the equipment installation was complete at Intake and 45 percent at Gene. On the pump delivery lines at Intake plant, the contractor has completed laying 95 percent of the 6-foot diameter pipe, the first section of 10-foot diameter pipe was placed and 44 percent of the concrete work has been completed; at Gene plant 50 percent of the 10-foot diameter pipe has been laid and 44 percent of the concrete work completed.

Purchasing—Approximately \$63,519 was expended during March on 385 purchase orders and 3 agreements.

BOARD MEMBERS MAKE INSPECTION TOUR OF EXPANSION WORK



General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer and members of the Board of Directors gathered at the Whitsett Intake Pumping Plant, with new pumping plant delivery lines now being installed shown at upper right. Left to right are Walter H. Long, Frank H. Wheelock, Robert

E. Austin, Victor H. York, Morris S. Jones, Mr. Diemer, Nelson Hayward, Lloyd C. Leedom, Warren W. Butler, Milo Dellmann, Howard Boylan, Paul L. Burkhard, A. H. Allen, Luther C. Anderson, Ransom W. Chase, Hugh W. Stiles, George W. Stevens and E. P. Hapgood.



View at the Iron Mountain sand trap on a canal section of the Aqueduct. The four men shown in the group are, left to right, Directors Boylan, Stevens, Butler and Anderson.



Several members of the Director's party take a close-up view of the new pumping plant delivery lines being installed at Gene Pumping Plant as part of the expansion program.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE

Catharine Wilson, Secretary, recently became engaged to Dewey Gallagher, who presented her with a lovely diamond ring. Mr. Gallagher is in the plumbing business in Los Angeles.

The couple plan to be married on May 28 at 9:00 a.m. in the Mother of Good Counsel Church at Vermont and Ambrose. They will honeymoon at La Jolla.

* * *

Eugene Bowers, Research Chemist at the Softening Plant, became a proud father, for the fourth time, on April 7 when Mrs. Bowers presented him with an 8 pound, 8 ounce baby boy. The young fellow arrived at 9:30 p.m. at Cottage Grove Hospital and has been named William Douglas. The other three children are also boys.

* * *

A baby shower was held in the Recreation Hall at Gene Village on April 6 for Betty Alexander and Jean Carnahan. Hostesses Dorothy King, Joan Whaley and Lucille Graham handled all arrangements and served dessert. After the gifts were opened, the ladies spent the balance of the evening playing pinochle. Mrs. Ed Russell won first prize.

* * *

Harry Jahn, Senior Engineer, is back at work after a tough time with a ruptured appendix. He was operated on April 6 and spent a week in the hospital and three weeks at home convalescing.

* * *

Captain Joy H. Dunlap, formerly an Engineer with the District, now in the Air Force, has a new address. He can be addressed at 17th B Bomb. Wg. (L), Hurlburt Aux. #9, Eglin A.F.B. Fla.



Jim Chapman, Maintenance Mechanic at Gene Village, is shown with the landing craft which he drives around Copper Basin Reservoir.



Thomas F. Thompson

A recent visitor to the Los Angeles office was Thomas F. Thompson, who worked with Wally Pentegoff and Ike Henderson on geological work on the main aqueduct and on the construction of Cajalco dam and reservoir.

He left the District in 1939 and since has worked as Chief Geologist on the Panama Canal, Chief of Geology for the Corps of Engineers in the Walla Walla district, and is now Consulting Geologist for Panama, El Salvador and various engineering firms here and overseas.

* * *

William S. Merrithew, Senior Engineer, who was Resident Engineer on the construction of the Garvey Reservoir, has been promoted to Senior Engineer in charge of Distribution. Bill joined the District in February, 1933 and has been employed continuously since that time. He was appointed Senior Engineer in May, 1952.

* * *

William J. Edwards, Junior Engineering Aide on the Field Construction, has a brand new baby at his house. Leonard Paul weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces when he was born on April 6 at the San Gabriel Valley Hospital.

* * *

Arthur E. "Bud" Graham, Foreman, a Captain in the Army Reserve and Commander of an Engineers' Company in the Reserve, spent April 22 and 23 in San Francisco to prepare for the summer training period of July 17 through 31. Members of his Company are Ben Alexander, Bob Gough, Fred Skenandore and Charles Swango, all of the District and located at Gene.

George Craig, Maintenance Man at Gene, is back at work after recovering from a broken leg suffered last fall while working on concrete forms. He spent some time at the Good Samaritan Hospital and is still restricted to light work.

* * *

The Gene Chapter of the Crystal Ball Gazers Association is conducting its annual membership drive. The Association each year attempts to guess the total water run-off into Lake Mead for the spring, and Gene residents say that one of them will win this year.

* * *

On a recent trip to San Diego, Mrs. Ray Whaples suffered a fractured arm. She is now in San Diego under the care of Dr. Ralph Russell, a former District doctor.

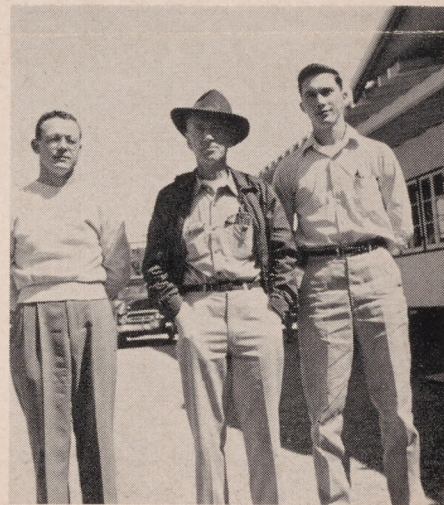
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Lloyd Wittman, son of Otto Wittman, Senior Engineer, is now in Frankfurt, Germany with the Army. Lloyd is a private II and an M.P. with the Fourth Military Police Company, Fourth Regiment.

He is now on maneuvers in the field and expects to be sent to Norway in the near future. He left New York on April 14.

* * *

R. B. "Bruce" Carnahan, a Junior Engineer at Gene, is in San Francisco with the Naval Reserve for a short period of summer training in the study of Naval Emergency Actions and Fire Prevention. Bruce is a Naval Lieutenant.



Ben Alexander, Cost Clerk, Ray Whaples, Administrative Assistant, and Bob Gough, Utility Clerk, are three of the fellows who keep things humming at Gene Village.